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PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1993-1997

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. The draft programme of work of the Commission for 1993-1997 is submitted (in Annex I) for the Commission's consideration and approval pursuant to operative paragraph 5(a) of its resolution 5 (XXIV).

2. The amendments to the programme of work approved by the Commission at its forty-eighth session will be incorporated by the secretariat in the text which will appear as Annex IV to the Commission's Annual Report to the Economic and Social Council.

3. In the case of the programme of work of the Commission itself (programme category 00), a draft has been prepared containing detailed descriptions of the programme elements, since this programme category is subject to review by the Commission at its annual session (Annex II). In certain cases these descriptions will have to be completed by the Executive Secretary after the forty-eighth session of the Commission in order to reflect the relevant resolutions and other decisions which will be adopted at that session. Such programme elements are annotated: "To be completed as may be necessary".

4. In the framework of the procedures for prior consultation with the organizations of the United Nations system pursuant to Council resolution 1549 (XLIX), and in order to avoid any unnecessary duplication of work, the Executive Secretary has offered his comments, as in the past, to the executive heads of those organizations who have transmitted to him their programmes of work. An account of the cooperation which has taken place during the past year between the ECE and the specialized agencies and other international organizations and institutions is given in the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/1278.

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5. The Medium-Term Plan for 1992-1997 was approved by the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session. The Economic Commission for Europe has held consultations concerning a revision of the Plan to reflect the new realities in the ECE region which have developed since the Plan was formulated in 1989. The Executive Secretary, after consultation with ECE Governments, submitted proposals for the revision of the Plan to the Secretary-General. The revised Medium-Term Plan was approved by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session. Modifications in the order and titles of some of the subprogrammes in the revised Medium-Term Plan are reflected in Annex I as a result of decision O (45).

6. With regard to the ECE pattern of meetings, the General Assembly in its resolution 47/202 approved the Calendar of Conferences and Meetings for 1993, which contains provision for the holding of the forty-eighth session of the Commission in April 1993. The following tentative schedule for the regular meetings of its Principal Subsidiary Bodies has been established, in accordance with the decisions taken by those bodies, for the period between the forty-eighth and forty-ninth sessions of the Commission.

Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	7-11 June	1993
Conference of European Statisticians	14-18 June	
Committee on Human Settlements	21-23 September	
Timber Committee	11-15 October	
Committee on Energy	9-11 November	
Committee on the Development of Trade	7-9 December	
Inland Transport Committee	17-21 January	1994

Meetings and study tours

7. In 1992 the ECE held a total of 580 half-days of meetings serviced by the United Nations. Of these half-days of meetings, 24 were held outside Geneva, 36 were for meetings of ECOSOC bodies on the transport of dangerous goods and 31 were for meetings of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. In addition 104 half-days of meetings were held outside Geneva with services provided by the host authorities. For purposes of comparison the equivalent figures for the period 1985-1992 are given below:

	Geneva	Outside Geneva	Outside Geneva
	UN interpretation	UN interpretation	Host authorities interpretation
1985	778	68	124
1986	669	80	132
1987	685	60	123
1988	638	55	131
1989	639	95	101
1990	699	73	91
1991	651	20	113
1992	556	24	104

8. The meetings held outside Geneva in 1992 under the auspices of the Commission took place at the invitation of the Governments of the following countries: Australia (1); Czech and Slovak Federal Republic (4); Finland (1); France (1); Germany (1); Italy (4); Poland (3); Portugal (2); Spain (2); Sweden (2); Turkey (1); Ukraine (1); United Kingdom (1); United States (2).

9. The Commission may wish to bear in mind that such meetings are organized only if the subsidiary body concerned has accepted an invitation extended by the host Government and that this decision is clearly reflected in the report of the body concerned. Moreover, the host Government is obliged, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 31/140 (I), to bear the additional costs of meetings attributable to the venue being away from the Commission's headquarters.

10. Study tours were organized during 1992 in the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and Portugal.

11. During 1992, and in accordance with decisions D (45) and O (45), 34 workshops were held to assist countries in transition to a market economy. These workshops are usually informal meetings with facilities and support provided by host Governments and/or sponsoring organizations (see E/ECE/1272). Workshops were held in the following countries in 1992: Austria, Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland.

Documentation

12. The following data (in terms of pages reproduced in the three working languages of the Commission) have been compiled and supplied by the Statistical Unit of the Editorial and Documents Control Section of the United Nations Office at Geneva. For purposes of comparison, the equivalent figures for the period 1985-1992 have been provided:

Year	Total physical pages reproduced in English, French and Russian
1985	106,748
1986	98,504
1987	88,383
1988	84,365
1989	85,899
1990	96,642
1991	94,988
1992	88,905

13. Sales of ECE publications generated a gross income of approximately $ 104,000 in 1992.

ANNEX I

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1992-1996

Introduction

NOTE: The revised structure of the Commission, reflecting the provisions of decision O (45), notably the definition of priority areas of activity, corresponds to a large extent to the sub-programmes used in the ECE Programme Budget and the Medium-Term Plan. This correspondence is intended to provide greater homogeneity and transparency in the monitoring of programme delivery, both by the intergovernmental machinery of the Commission and by the secretariat.

In the course of consultations with member Governments on the structure of the programme of work, as reflected in the Medium-Term Plan, it was agreed that the order of sub-programmes would begin with the five areas of activity defined by the Commission in decision O (45) as priorities. In order to maintain numerical consistency with reports of the various Principal Subsidiary Bodies and Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission, the programme of work contained in this annex is presented in the form in which it was adopted by the Commission at its forty-sixth session, prior to the approval of the revised Medium-Term Plan, and has been used by its subsidiary bodies in the course of the year. The revised structure, as set out below, will be used in the Commission's Annual Report to the Council.

CATEGORY	SUB-PROGRAMME (revised structure to be used for the remainder of 1993)
00	Policy and coordination of the work of the Commission
01	Environment
02	Transport
03	Statistics
04	Trade facilitation
05	Economic analysis
06	Energy
07	Development of international trade
08	Industry and technology
09	Agriculture and timber
10	Human settlements

CATEGORY	SUB-PROGRAMME (structure used in 1992 and throughout this document)
00	Policy and coordination of the work of the Commission
01	Development issues and policies
02	Food and agriculture (including forestry products)
	A. Agriculture
	B. Timber
03	Environment
04	Human settlements
05	Industrial development
	A. Chemicals *
	B. Engineering industries and automation *
	C. Standardization *
	D. Steel *
06	International trade and development finance
	A. Trade facilitation
	B. Trade
07	Energy issues
08	Science and technology
09	Transport, communications and tourism
10	Statistics

* Activities in these areas are carried out by Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission.

The remainder of Annex I and Annex II will be issued as E/ECE/1277/Add.1.